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Message Text

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15
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W
---------- 037146
O 051040Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6036

S E C R E T KABUL 8294

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AF, US
SUBJ: US-AFGHAN RELATIONS

REF: (A) KABUL 8105; (B) STATE 234451

SUMMARY: I HAVE CAREFULLY EXAMINED "EVIDENCE" OF US INVOLVEMENT IN ABORTIVE MAIWANDWAL COUP AND FIND IT CONSISTS ENTIRELY OF HEARSAY THEORIZING AND "LEADING WITNESS" TYPE QUESTIONS. THERE IS NO SHRED OF PROOF OR FACT IN IT. I AM SEEKING APPOINTMENT WITH NAIM TO CONVEY MY REACTIONS TO HIM AND REQUEST HIS ASSISTANCE IN SCOTCHING ANY FURTHER SPREAD OF THIS MALICIOUS LIE. END SUMMARY.

1. ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, DEPFONMIN ABDULLAH GAVE ME "EVIDENCE" OF ALLEGED US INVOLVEMENT IN MAIWANDWAL COUP. IN COURSE CONVERSATION HE TOLD ME "WE DO NOT OF COURSE ATTACH ANY CREDENCE TO THIS EVIDENCE." I RESPONDED THAT I WAS GLAD TO HEAR THAT SINCE OFFICERS IN STATE DEPARTMENT WHO HAD READY MY REPORTING CABLE ON CONVERSATION WITH NAIM COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY ANY AFGHAN WOULD ATTACH CREDENCE TO IT.

2. A. "EVIDENCE CONSISTS OF DOCUMENTS AND TAPE RECORDING. DOCUMENTS INCLUDE ELEVEN PAGES OF ORIGINALS AND PHOTOCOPIES OF EXCERPTS AND SUMMARIES OF WRITTEN INTERROGATION AND ANSWERS OF FOUR "PLOTTERS": AIR FORCE COLONEL SAID AMIR, AIR FORCE PILOT ABDUL AKRAM, AIR FORCE COMMANDANT ABDUL RAZAK, AND FORMER DEPCHIEF OF STAFF KHAN MOHAMMAD KHAN. TAPE IS EXCERPTS OF ORAL TESTIMONY OF SAID AMIR, RAZAK AND KHAN MOHAMMAD. POUCHING COMPLETE SET TRANSLATION
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TO LAINGEN, NEA.
B. WRITTEN AND RECORDED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS ARE SIMILAR, CONCENTRATING ON WHICH FOREIGN SOURCE WAS TO

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SUPPLY AID AND WHAT THIS AID WOULD CONSIST OF. SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

(1) SAID AMIR: MAIWANDWAL STATED TO US THAT U.S. WOULD HELP COUP PLOTTERS. TYPE OF AID UNSPECIFIED (ALTHOUGH AMIR PERSONALLY RECEIVED AND WAS PROMISED MORE MONEY FROM MAIWANDWAL). ROUTE OF AID WOULD BE IRAN AND /OR PAKISTAN.

(2) PILOT MOHAMMAD AKRAM: U.S. WAS SUPPORTING US (COUP PLOTTERS). SOURCE OF THIS SUPPORT WAS KNOWN TO SAID AMIR, MOMTAZ (MEMBER OF PLOT), AND MAIWANDWAL. ROUTE OF SUPPORT VIA IRAN, PAKISTAN, POSSIBLY US EMBASSY KABUL.

(3) ABDUL RAZAK: MAIWANDWAL PROMISED WE WOULD HAVE HELP. BECAUSE MAIWANDWAL HAD CONNECTIONS IN PAST WITH CIA, THIS HELP MUST BE COMING FROM CIA.

(4) KHAN MOHAMMAD KHAN: MAIWANDWAL SAID A FOREIGN COUNTRY IS READY TO GIVE US MONEY AND ARMS. BECAUSE MAIWANDWAL WAS WESTERN-ORIENTED AND HAD KNOWN CONNECTIONS WITH CIA, THIS COUNTRY MUST HAVE BEEN U.S. WHICH HAS VITAL INTERESTS IN PERSIAN GULF, IRAN, PAKISTAN, INDIAN OCEAN AND INDIA. IT IS LOGICAL TO ASSUME THAT U.S. WOULD BE INTERESTED IN AFGHANISTAN SO WOULD HELP US IN ORDER GAIN INFLUENCE IN AFGHANISTAN.

C. NONE OF THESE INDIVIDUALS AT ANY TIME STATED THEY KNOW PERSONALLY OF FORTHCOMING AMERICAN AID, PROMISES OF SAME OR EVEN CONTACTS MADE WITH AMERICANS. ALL ONLY REPORT MAIWANDWAL'S PROMISES OF FOREIGN SUPPORT WHICH IS ASSUMED BY THESE INDIVIDUALS TO INCLUDE VARIOUS WEAPONS AND FUNDS TO BE COMING FROM U.S. NO FOREIGN INDIVIDUAL NAMED AT ANY TIME.

3. "EVIDENCE" IS CLEARLY HEARSAY, "LEADING WITNESS" TYPE THAT COULD CONVINCE NO ONE (EXCEPT ONE WHO WANTED TO BELIEVE IT) THAT U.S. HAD PLAYED ANY KIND OF ROLE IN ABORTED COUP. THERE IS NOT SHRED OF PROOF OR FACT IN "EVIDENCE" PRODUCED.

4. I AM REQUESTING APPOINTMENT WITH NAIM AT WHICH TIME I INTEND CONVEY (A) HOW PREPOSTERIOUS IDEA OF U.S. INVOLVEMENT IS (B) ALLEGED ACTIONS CONTRAVENE NIXON DOCTRINE, (C) I AM DISTURBED THAT ANYONE COULD GIVE CREDENCE TO CLAIM OF US SUPPORT OF PLOT AMOUNTING TO GROSS INTERFERENCE IN AFGHAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, (D)

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I HAVE CAREFULLY EXAMINED ALL "EVIDENCE" GIVEN ME BY ABDULLAH AND I FIND NO REAL EVIDENCE OR PROOF IN IT, (E) ENTIRE MATERIAL CONSISTS OF HEARSAY, THEORIZING, "LEADING WITNESS" TYPE QUESTIONS WHICH COULD NOT WITHSTAND LIGHT OF DAY AND CERTAINLY COULD NOT BE EVIDENCE IN ANY COURT OF LAW, (F) I ASSUME HE HIMSELF HAS GIVEN NO CREDENCE TO THIS MATERIAL, AND (G) I AM CONCERNED THAT SOMEBODY - NOT NAIM OF COURSE - IS TRYING POISON AFGHAN-US RELATIONS. IN CONCLUSION, I INTEND ASK HIS SUPPORT IN ENSURING THAT THAT AIM IS NOT SUCCESSFUL AND THAT THIS OBVIOUSLY FALSE ALLEGATION BE PROMPTLY REVEALED FOR WHAT IT IS IN GOA CIRCLES WHICH HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF IT.

ELIOT

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